5th January 1954]

Appointments of Scheduled Caste candidates in the Transport department.

*305 *Q.*—Sri A. RATNAM : Will the Hon. the Minister for Industries and Labour be pleased to state—

(*a*) whether the Government received any representation from the members of the Scheduled Castes Federation Legislative Party, urging the Government to appoint more members of the Scheduled Castes in the Transport department in future vacancies;

(*b*) when the representations were made;

(*c*) whether instructions were given to the department accordingly and whether the departmental authorities carried out the orders of the Government;

(*d*) how many officers, clerks, drivers, conductors, cleaners, engineers, coolies, fitters and others were appointed after the date so far and how many among them were Harijans; and

(*e*) the percentage of Harijans in the cadre of officers, clerks, drivers, conductors, fitters, engineers, cleaners, coolies and others?

The Hon. Dr. U. KRISHNA RAO :—" (*a*) Yes.

" (*b*) On 14th March 1953.

" (*c*) Yes and the Transport Commissioner has given adequate representation to Harijans to the extent possible, with reference to the qualifications required for the posts."

" (*d*) & (*e*) A statement [a] is laid on the table of the House."

Sri A. RATNAM :—" அமைச்சர் பதில் அளிக்கும்போது டிரான்ஸ் போர்ட்டில் ஆயிரக் கணக்கான மனுக்கள் வந்தபோது ஒரு சத விகிதம் தான் தாழ்த்தப்பட்டவர்களுக்கு பிரதிநிதித்துவம் கொடுக்கப்பட்டிருக்கிறது என்று சொன்னார். ஆனால் இப்பொழுது 40 பேர்கள் வேலைக்கு அமர்த்தப் பட்டிருக்கிறார்கள். அந்த 40 பேர்களில் இரண்டு பேர்கள் தாழ்த்தப்பட்ட வகுப்பைச் சேர்ந்தவர்கள். அதில் ஒருவர் கண்டக்டர், ஒருவர் பியூன் வேலைக்கு அமர்ததபபட்டு இருக்கிறார்கள். என் 15 சத விகிதம் அளிக்கப்பட வில்லை என்று கேட்டதற்கு அவர்களுக்கு வேண்டிய பிரதிநிதித்துவம் கொடுத் திருபபதாக அவர் கூறுகிறார். அது முறையில்லை என்பதைக் கூறுகிறேன். ஆகவே அரசாங்கம் அதில் தலையிட்டு தாழ்த்தப்பட்டவர்களுக்கு அதிகமாக வேலை கொடுப்பார்களா என்று கேட்கிறேன்."

The Hon. Dr. U. KRISHNA RAO :—" I am glad the hon. Member has put a question at the end. I said, 'Adequate representation, to the extent possible, with reference to the qualifications required.' The hon. Member did give me a petition along with three other hon. Members in March 1953. The Government examined the position on 6th July 1953 and gave instructions to the Transport Commissioner that, as far as possible, Harijans must be given adequate representation." 9-40 a.m.

Sri K. VINAYAKAM :—" In view of the fact that the Transport Commissioner is the appointing authority and in view

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[a] Printed as Appendix I on page 172 infra.

also of the fact that the Public Service Commission has no jurisdiction over appointments in the Transport Department, are the Government aware of the fact that the principle regarding communal representation for the members of the Backward Classes and the Scheduled Castes, other things being equal is not adhered to? Are the Government also aware of the fact that only persons coming from the West Coast, that is, outside our State, are encouraged in this Transport Department? Will the Government, therefore, pull up the officer concerned and give him proper instructions to rectify these defects? "

THE HON. DR. U. KRISHNA RAO :—" I am glad that the hon Member asked this question, because there is a misapprehension in the minds of some hon. Members which I would like to remove. The impression is that people from the West Coast are preferred for appointment. Well, this is a common complaint made to me by many people. I did make an examination into the matter and the facts do not warrant this accusation. Sir, I am prepared to say, and I am glad the hon. Member also has said, that the appointment is not made by me but that it is made by the Transport Commissioner under the powers delegated to him under the relevant Act. The question of referring all these appointments to the Public Service Commission is being examined."

SRI V. BALAKRISHNAN :—" In view of the frequent complaints of partiality with regard to appointments, will the Hon. Minister be pleased to consider the desirability of constituting an Appointing Board? "

THE HON. DR. U. KRISHNA RAO :—" As I said, these complaints have been examined and, so far as my knowledge goes, the facts do not warrant the accusation. As I said, the question of making these appointments will, in the near future, go to the Public Service Commission, when I hope all these doubts and misgivings will be removed."

SRI M. PALANIYANDI :—" கனம் சபா நாயகர் அவர்களே, மந்திரி அவர்கள் சொல்லும்போது வெஸ்ட் கோஸ்ட் என்ற வார்த்தையை உபயோகித்தார்கள். அப்படி உபயோகிக்கும்போது அது மலபார் மட்டுமா அல்லது திருவாங்கூரும் கொச்சினும் சேர்ந்ததா என்று கேட்கிறேன். "

THE HON. DR. U. KRISHNA RAO :—" Those who make the allegation must know to which place they refer. As I said, there is no such partiality as alleged. I am really unable to answer the question of the hon. Member Sri Palaniyandi."

SRI K. VINAYAKAM :—" While answering a supplementary question, the Hon. Minister was pleased to state that no discrimination was shown between people coming from our State and those coming from other States. Is the Hon. Minister aware of the fact that people coming from other States, especially, from the West Coast and Travancore-Cochin, give wrong addresses—they give their residential addresses in the Madras State—and thus score an advantage over others? "

THE HON. DR. U. KRISHNA RAO :—" The West Coast is still in our State. It is not a foreign State. But if the hon. Member would give me any definite instance, I shall look into it."

SRI M. PALANIYANDI :—" வெஸ்ட் கோஸ்ட் நம்முடைய ராஜ்யத்தைச் சேர்ந்ததுதான். திரு பாங்கூர்கொச்சியில் உள்ளவர்கள் இங்கே அட்ரஸ் கொடுத்து பதிவு செய்துகொண்டிருக்கிறார்கள். அப்படி பதிவு செய்து கொண் டிருப்பவர்களை வேலைக்கு எடுத்துக்கொள்ளுகிறார்கள் என்று சொல்லுகிறார்கள். அதை மறுக்கமுடியுமா என்று கேட்கிறேன்."

THE HON. DR. U. KRISHNA RAO :—" Mere assertion does not confirm the fact. I should like the hon. Member to give me names and addresses of such persons and I shall verify the matter."

Constitution of District Planning Boards.

* 306 *Q.*—SRI K. R. VISWANATHAN : Will the Hon. the Chief Minister be pleased to state—

(*a*) the names in the case of non-official and the designation in the case of official personnel of Tiruchirappalli District Planning Board;

(*b*) the ameliorative and development works recommended by the Board for Udaiyarpalayam taluk for the first Five-Year Plan; and

(*c*) whether the Government will place a copy of the rules governing the constitution of these planning boards on the table of the House?

THE HON. SRI M. BHAKTAVATSALAM (on behalf of the Hon. the Chief Minister) :—" (a) to (c) A statement [a] is laid on the table of the House."

SRI K. R. VISWANATHAN :—" Sir, this question was given notice of in April 1953. Already a period of eight months has elapsed. I think that there should be something wrong either with the Legislature Secretariat . . ."

MR. SPEAKER :—" There is nothing wrong with the Legislature Secretariat. As soon as we receive notice of a question, we pass it on to the concerned department of the Government? "

SRI K. R. VISWANATHAN :—" Or in the lower rungs of the department concerned . . ."

MR. SPEAKER :—" That is, the department of the Government."

SRI K. R. VISWANATHAN :—" Yes, Sir. If this is the fate of the questions emerging from the Assembly, it is no wonder that there is red tape in every department of the Government, especially, in the Revenue Department. So, may I suggest the Government to disclose the reasons for such delay and also to see

(*a*) Printed as Appendix II on pages 173–174 infra.